

# PENDORF & CUTLIFF

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March 18, 2002

## **BOX PCT**

Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## **SMALL ENTITY**

PCT/DE00/02375  
- filed 21 July 2000

Re: Application of Peter Wilhelm KOENIG and Martin HINZMANN  
"SUPPLY METER FOR LIQUID AND GASEOUS MEDIUMS"  
Our Ref.: 3960.010

Dear Sir:

The following documents and fees are submitted herewith in connection with the above application for the purpose of entering the National stage under 35 U.S.C. §371 and in accordance with Chapter II of the Patent Cooperation Treaty:

- X this express request to immediately begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. 371(f)).
- X an executed Declaration and Power of Attorney.
- X a German Language International Application with European Search Report
- X an English (translation of the) International Application.
- an English (translation of) Article 19 claim amendments.
- English translation of Article 34 amendments (annexes to the IPER) and German language IPER.
- an executed Assignment and PTO 1595 form.
- X One (1) Sheet of Formal Drawings
- X Preliminary Amendment.

Honorable Commissioner of  
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March 18, 2002  
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It is assumed that copies of the International Application, the International Search Report, the International Preliminary Examination Report, and any Articles 19 and 34 amendments as required by §371(c) will be supplied directly by the International Bureau, but if further copies are needed, the undersigned can easily provide them upon request.

The Government filing fee is calculated as follows:

Total claims .....	12	-	20	=	_____	x \$ 9 = \$
Independent Claims .....	1	-	3	=	_____	x \$ 42 = \$
Base Fee .....						\$ 445.00*

**TOTAL FILING FEE** ..... \$ 445.00

\* A copy of the European Search Report is attached.

A check for the statutory filing fee of \$445.00 is attached. Please charge or credit any difference or overpayment to Deposit Account No. 16-0877. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees under 37 C.F.R. §1.492 which may be required during the entire pendency of the application to said Account.

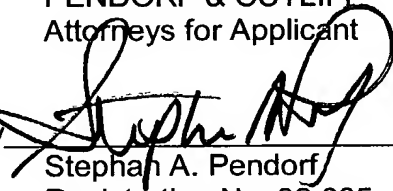
Assertion is hereby made that the inventors qualify as independent inventors as defined in 37 C.F.R. §1.9(c) for purposes of paying reduced fees under Section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office with regard to the invention entitled "SUPPLY METER FOR LIQUID AND GASEOUS MEDIUMS", described in the specification filed herewith.

Priority is claimed from September 18, 1999, based on German Application No. 199 44 788.8.

Respectfully submitted,

PENDORF & CUTLIFE  
Attorneys for Applicant

By

  
Stephan A. Pendorf  
Registration No. 32,665

10088626 10/088626

JC13 Rec'd PCT/PTC 18 MAR 2002

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Patents and Trademarks  
March 18, 2002  
Page 3

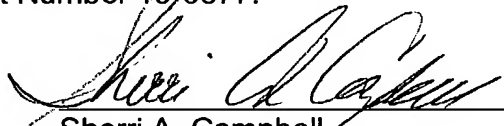
**EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE**

"EXPRESS MAIL" MAILING LABEL NUMBER: **EL568147847US**

DATE OF DEPOSIT: **March 18, 2002**

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing cover letter including the German Language International Application with European Search Report, English Language translation, Preliminary Amendment, one (1) sheets of formal drawings, payment of fee, and a stamped receipt post card are being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 C.F.R. §1.10 on the date indicated and is addressed: **ATTN: Box PCT, Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.**

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

  
Sherri A. Campbell

PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Peter Wilhelm KOENIG and Martin HINZMANN

Appln. No.:

Filed: March 18, 2002

For: SUPPLY METER FOR LIQUID OR GASEOUS MEDIUMS

Attorney Docket No.: 3960.010

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attn: Box PCT  
Honorable Commissioner of  
Patents and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application,  
please amend the application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS (CLEAN VERSION):

Please delete original PCT Claims 1-12, delete Substitute  
Claims 1-12 and add the following new Claims 13-24:

13. Supply meter for liquid or gaseous medium or electric  
current, with a display device for displaying the amount of  
the medium which has passed through the supply meter, which  
displays with a cumulative meter reading the entire amount  
consumed to date and makes possible the production of a  
verification code, thereby characterized, that the  
verification code display device (3) is mechanically linked  
with the drive means (1) for the consumed-amount display-  
device (4), and that the translation relationship between

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3960.010

the drive means (1) and the verification code display device (3) is freely selectable.

14. Supply meter according to claim 13, wherein the verification code provided by the verification code display device (3) is a product of the position of the consumed-amount display-device (4), the setting of the verification code display device (3) when the consumed-amount display-device (4) was in the zero or start position, and the translation relationship between the gear (1) and the verification code display device (3).
15. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a rotating body.
16. Supply meter according to Claim 15, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a rotating display.
17. Supply meter according to Claim 15, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a disk display.
18. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays a verification code for the cumulative meter reading.
19. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) is fixed or set in the zero position of the supply meter display device, in order to generate a portion of the device number.

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3960.010

20. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays, encoded, the cumulative meter reading and device specific data of the supply meter.
21. Supply meter according to Claim 20, wherein as the device specific data there is displayed the device number and/or device type.
22. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays the verification code in the form of letters, characters, numbers or symbols.
23. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein a cover provided over the display surface of the verification code display device (3) is operable by means of a mechanical push button (7).
24. Supply meter according to Claim 23, wherein the push button (7) is cushioned.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended in order to eliminate multiple dependent claims and claims improperly depending from multiple dependent claims, and to otherwise conform the claims to U.S. practice. Care has been taken to ensure that no new matter is added to the text.

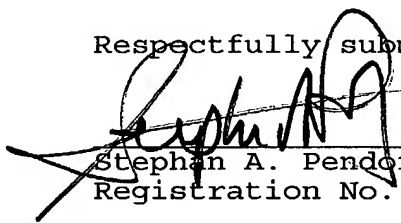
U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3960.010

Entry and favorable consideration prior to consideration are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PENDORF & CUTLIFF  
P.O. Box 20445  
Tampa, Florida 33622-0445  
(813) 886-6085

  
Stephan A. Pendorf  
Registration No. 32,665

Date: March 18, 2002

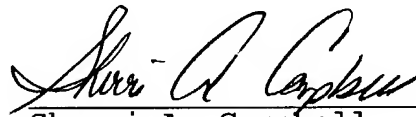
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The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required at any time during the prosecution of this application without specific authorization, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 16-0877.

  
Sherri A. Campbell

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3960.010

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

The Examiner is requested to accept the marked-up version as it is based on the previous version, which when modified as below, produces the clean version submitted with the current amendment.

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please delete original PCT Claims 1-12.

Please delete PCT Substitute Claims 1-12.

Please add the following new Claims 13-24:

- 13. Supply meter for liquid or gaseous medium or electric current, with a display device for displaying the amount of the medium which has passed through the supply meter, which displays with a cumulative meter reading the entire amount consumed to date and makes possible the production of a verification code, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is mechanically linked with the drive means (1) for the consumed-amount display-device (4), and that the translation relationship between the drive means (1) and the verification code display device (3) is freely selectable.
14. Supply meter according to claim 13, wherein the verification code provided by the verification code display device (3) is a product of the position of the consumed-amount display-device (4), the setting of the verification code display device (3) when the consumed-amount display-device (4) was in the zero or start position, and the translation relationship between the gear (1) and the verification code display device (3).



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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

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15. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a rotating body.
16. Supply meter according to Claim 15, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a rotating display.
17. Supply meter according to Claim 15, wherein the verification code display device (3) is a disk display.
18. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays a verification code for the cumulative meter reading.
19. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) is fixed or set in the zero position of the supply meter display device, in order to generate a portion of the device number.
20. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays, encoded, the cumulative meter reading and device specific data of the supply meter.
21. Supply meter according to Claim 20, wherein as the device specific data there is displayed the device number and/or device type.
22. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein the verification code display device (3) displays the verification code in the form of letters, characters, numbers or symbols.

U.S. Application No.:  
PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Attorney Docket: 3960.010

23. Supply meter according to Claim 13, wherein a cover provided over the display surface of the verification code display device (3) is operable by means of a mechanical push button (7).
24. Supply meter according to Claim 23, wherein the push button (7) is cushioned.--

SUPPLY METER FOR LIQUID AND GASEOUS MEDIUMSCross Reference To Related Application

[0001] This application is a *national stage* of PCT/DE00/02375 filed July 21, 2000 and based upon DE 199 44 788.8 filed September 18, 1999 under the International Convention.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTIONField of the invention

[0002] The invention concerns a supply meter for liquid or gaseous mediums or electric current, including a display device for the amount of the medium that has passed through the supply meter, which displays the entire previous supply in a cumulative meter reading and makes possible the provision of a verification code.

Description of the Related Art

[0003] A supply meter of this type is known from DE 19623044 A1. This known supply meter works electronically and has an electro-optic display device for display of the consumed amount, a verification code for the used amount, and a condition verification code for the supply meter. This supply meter makes possible a verifiable evaluation of the read consumption value and the condition of the supply meter. For reading the supply meter, the consumer or, as the case may be, the meter-reader transposes the actual as well as the encoded display values to a card which then can be evaluated by the supplier, who can then verify the correctness of the reading by decoding the encoded display values. Due to the complex design and the necessary electronic construction components the manufacturing costs are substantially higher in comparison to the mechanical supply meters.

- 1 -

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I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS PAPER IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" SERVICE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10 IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO THE COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON THIS DATE. THE COMMISSIONER IS HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO CHARGE ANY FEES ARISING HEREFROM AT ANY TIME TO DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 16-0877.

3-18-02  
DATE

[Signature]  
SIGNATURE

## 4

[0004] It is the task of the invention to design a supply meter of the above-described type in such a manner, that consumed amounts can be reliably evaluated without electronic construction components, and yet the accuracy of the meter reading as well as the meter condition can be verified using a verification code.

[0005] The supply meter in accordance with the invention has a mechanical display for the amount of the supply medium which has passed through the supply meter, which displays with a cumulative meter reading the total consumption to date and in addition makes possible the provision of a verification code. The generation of the verification code occurs by mechanical gears, of which the translation relationship depends upon the construction design and can be varied between 1:10. The representation of the verification code occurs on rollers or disks, of which the segment count can be other than 10. For the display of the verification code it is also possible to use numerals, figures or symbols. If the display of the verification code occurs in the form of numbers or letters, the segments of the rollers or disks need not be consecutively encoded, but rather for increasing the difficulty of manipulation may use a non-convention sequence, which may be for example "7, 2, 3, 1, 5, 9, 0, 4, 6, 8" or "B, X, K, Z, D, A, L, O, E, F". Insofar as letters or numbers are employed for representing the verification code, these represent particular values, which can be evaluated as information. The rotating bodies of the verification code display device can be connected at any point with the drive means or gears of the supply meter device. There need only be continuity between respectively the display of the verification code display device and the device number in the zero position of the supply meter display, since this verification code then forms the basis for the later

evaluation of the determined verification code data. Therein the employed translation relationship between the drive of the supply meter display device and the verification code device is taken into consideration. This can be for example 1:3.5.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWING

[0006] The invention will now be described in greater detail on the basis of the illustrative embodiment of a supply meter represented in the figures. There is shown:

Fig. 1 a view upon the display of the supply meter,

Fig. 2 the schematic of the connection of supply meter display device and verification code display device.

#### DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

[0007] The display 8 of the supply meter includes a numeric display 4 for the consumed amount, which display can be comprised of parallel to each other arranged rollers or dials with numeric imprints. Parallel to the numeric display of consumed amount 4 is provided a verification code display 5, which likewise is comprised of dials, upon which numbers, symbols, letters or the like can be provided next to each other. The verification code display 5 can be covered using a not shown cover, which could be operated using a push key or button 7. Preferably the push key or button 7 is cushioned. This can be accomplished using a spring, an air cushion or an oil cushion. Further, the display 8 may also include a known consumed amount display 6 by means of which the respective consumed quantity of the medium is displayed.

[0008] The verification code display device 3 is rigidly connected with the drive means 1 for the consumed amount display device via a gear connection means 2. The translation relationship between the gear 1 and the verification code display device 3 can be freely selected and may be for example 1:3.5. The knowledge of the setting of the translation relationship is essential for the evaluation of the verification code.

What is Claimed is:

1. Supply meter for liquid or gaseous medium or electric current, with a display device for displaying the amount of the medium which has passed through the supply meter, which displays with a cumulative meter reading the entire amount consumed to date and makes possible the production of a verification code, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is mechanically linked with the drive means (1) for the consumed-amount display-device.
2. Supply meter according to Claim 1, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is a rotating body.
3. Supply meter according to Claim 2, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is a rotating display.
4. Supply meter according to Claim 2, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is a disk display.
5. Supply meter according to Claim 1 through 4, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) displays a verification code for the cumulative meter reading.
6. Supply meter according to Claim 1 through 4, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is fixed or set in the zero position of the supply meter display device, in order to generate a portion of the device number.

7. Supply meter according to Claim 1 through 5, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) displays, encoded, the cumulative meter reading and device specific data of the supply meter.
8. Supply meter according to Claim 6, thereby characterized, that as the device specific data there is displayed the device number and/or device type.
9. Supply meter according to Claim 1 through 7, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) displays the verification code in the form of letters, characters, numbers or symbols.
10. Supply meter according to Claim 1 through 8, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is operable by means of a mechanical push button (7).
11. Supply meter according to Claim 9, thereby characterized, that a cover provided over the display surface of the verification code display device (3) is operable by means of the mechanical push button (7).
12. Supply meter according to Claim 9 and 10, thereby characterized, that the push button (7) is cushioned.



### Abstract

The invention relates to a supply meter for liquid or gaseous mediums or electric current. The supply meter is provided with a display device for the medium that passes the supply meter. The entire previous supply is displayed by means of a cumulated meter reading. A verification code can be produced by said meter reading. The verification code display device is mechanically linked to the gear of the supply display device.

PCT Substitute Patent Claims:

1. Supply meter for liquid or gaseous medium or electric current, with a display device for displaying the amount of the medium which has passed through the supply meter, which displays with a cumulative meter reading the entire amount consumed to date and makes possible the production of a verification code, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is mechanically linked with the drive means (1) for the consumed-amount display-device (4), and that the translation relationship between the drive means (1) and the verification code display device (3) is freely selectable.
2. Supply meter according to claim 1, thereby characterized, that the verification code provided by the verification code display device (3) is a product of the position of the consumed-amount display-device (4), the setting of the verification code display device (3) when the consumed-amount display-device (4) was in the zero or start position, and the translation relationship between the gear (1) and the verification code display device (3).
3. Supply meter according to Claim 1 or 2, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is a rotating body.
4. Supply meter according to Claim 3, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is a rotating display.
5. Supply meter according to Claim 3, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is a disk display.

6. Supply meter according to one of Claims 1 through 5, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) displays a verification code for the cumulative meter reading.
7. Supply meter according to one of Claims 1 through 6, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) is fixed or set in the zero position of the supply meter display device, in order to generate a portion of the device number.
8. Supply meter according to one of Claims 1 through 7, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) displays, encoded, the cumulative meter reading and device specific data of the supply meter.
9. Supply meter according to Claim 8, thereby characterized, that as the device specific data there is displayed the device number and/or device type.
10. Supply meter according to one of Claims 1 through 9, thereby characterized, that the verification code display device (3) displays the verification code in the form of letters, characters, numbers or symbols.
11. Supply meter according to one of Claims 1-10, thereby characterized, that a cover provided over the display surface of the verification code display device (3) is operable by means of a mechanical push button (7).
12. Supply meter according to Claim 11, thereby characterized, that the push button (7) is cushioned.

(12) NACH DEM VERTRAG ÜBER DIE INTERNATIONALE ZUSAMMENARBEIT AUF DEM GEBIET DES  
PATENTWESENS (PCT) VERÖFFENTLICHTE INTERNATIONALE ANMELDUNG

(19) Weltorganisation für geistiges Eigentum  
Internationales Büro



(43) Internationales Veröffentlichungsdatum  
29. März 2001 (29.03.2001)

PCT

(10) Internationale Veröffentlichungsnummer  
**WO 01/22036 A1**

(51) Internationale Patentklassifikation<sup>7</sup>: **G01D 4/02,**  
G06M 3/06, G01F 15/00, 15/06

**OHG [DE/DE];** Lenhartzstrasse 7, D-20249 Hamburg  
(DE).

(21) Internationales Aktenzeichen: **PCT/DE00/02375**

(72) Erfinder; und

(22) Internationales Anmeldedatum:  
21. Juli 2000 (21.07.2000)

(75) Erfinder/Anmelder (*nur für US*): **KOENIG, Peter,**  
**Wilhelm [DE/DE];** Lenhartzstrasse 7, D-20249 Hamburg  
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D-22393 Hamburg (DE).

(25) Einreichungssprache: **Deutsch**

(74) Anwalt: **POHL, Manfred;** Kirchenhang 32 b, D-21073  
Hamburg (DE).

(26) Veröffentlichungssprache: **Deutsch**

(30) Angaben zur Priorität:  
199 44 788.8 18. September 1999 (18.09.1999) **DE**

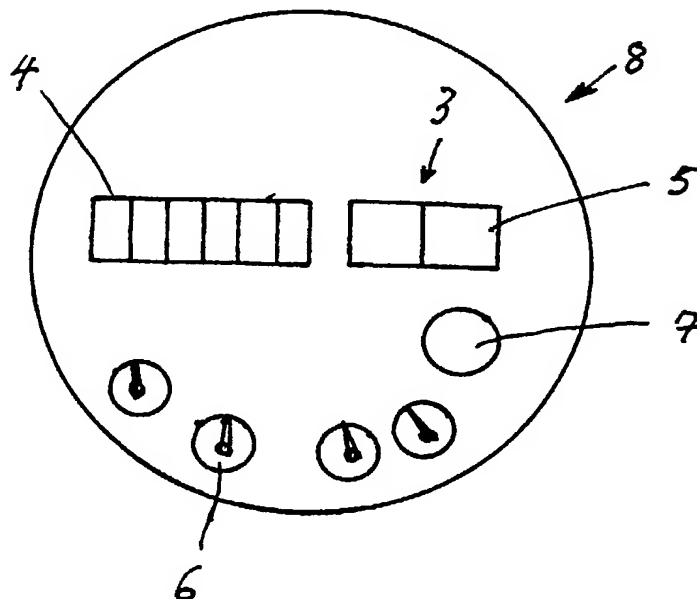
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**HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK,**  
**LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX,**

(71) Anmelder (*für alle Bestimmungsstaaten mit Ausnahme*  
*von US*): **UTILITY CONSULT HINZMANN & KÖNIG**

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]

(54) Title: **SUPPLY METER FOR LIQUID AND GASEOUS MEDIUMS**

(54) Bezeichnung: **VERBRAUCHSZÄHLER FÜR FLÜSSIGE UND GASFÖRMIGE MEDIEN**

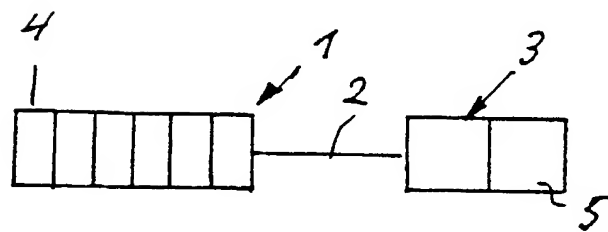
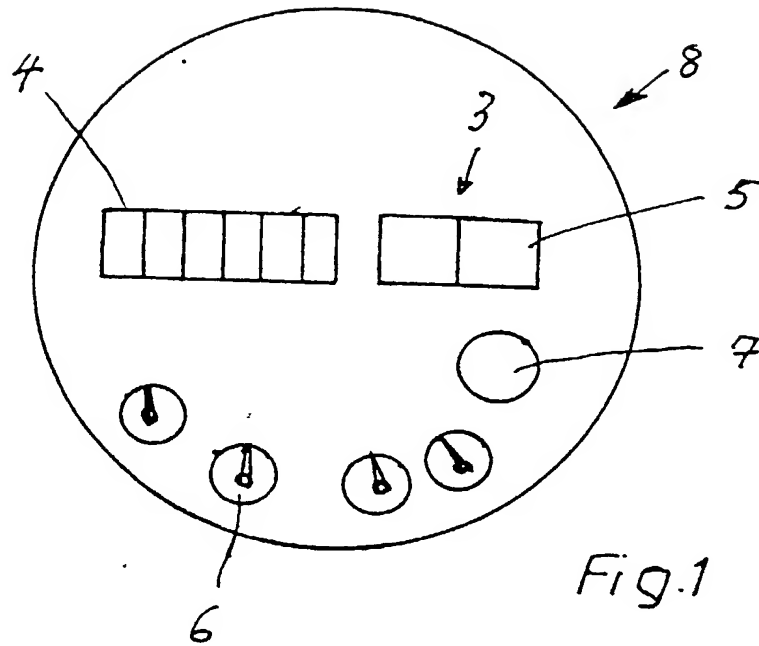


(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a supply meter for liquid or gaseous mediums or electric current. The supply meter is provided with a display device for the amount of the medium that passes the supply meter. The entire previous supply is displayed by means of a cumulated meter reading. A test code can be reproduced by said meter reading. The test code display device is mechanically linked to the gear of the supply display device.

[Fortsetzung auf der nächsten Seite]



**WO 01/22036 A1**



**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY**

As a below named inventor(s), I/We hereby declare that:

My residence, mailing address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter, which is claimed and for which a patent is sought in the application entitled:

**SUPPLY METER FOR LIQUID OR GASEOUS MEDIUMS**

This declaration is directed to:

☒ the attached application  
(for original application)

Application No. \_\_\_\_\_  
filed \_\_\_\_\_, and amended on \_\_\_\_\_  
(for declaration not accompanying application)

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Application No.	Country	Filing Date	Priority Claimed (yes or no)
199 44 788.8	Germany	18 September 1999	yes

I hereby claim the benefit of Title 35, United States Code §120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in a listed prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, §112, I acknowledge my duty to disclose any material information under 37 C.F.R. §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

Application No.	Filing Date	Status (patented, pending, abandoned)
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I hereby appoint Stephan A. Pendorf, Reg. No. 32,665; Yaté K. Cutliff, Reg. No. 40,577 and Evelyn A. Defillo, Reg. No. 45,630, my attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith, and request that all correspondence about the application be addressed to Stephan A. Pendorf at Pendorf & Cutliff, P.O. Box 20445, Tampa, FL 33622-0445.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Date 11. 3. 2002 First Inventor Peter Wilhelm KOENIG  
First Name Middle Initial Last Name  
Residence same as mailing Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address Lenhartzstrasse 7  
Citizenship Germany D-20249, Hamburg, GERMANY

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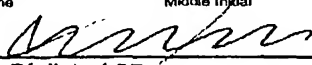
3-18-02  
DATE

Stephan A. Pendorf  
SIGNATURE

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SOLE/JOINT  
ATTY DOCK: 3960.010

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

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